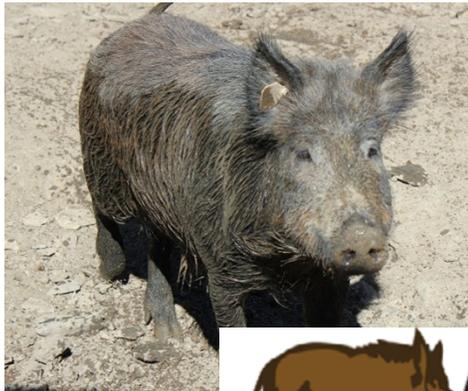


PROGRAM ACTIVITY REPORT (PAR)

2012 International Wild Pig Conference

The 2012 International Wild Pig Conference was held on April 15-18, 2012 in San Antonio, Texas. This conference has been held every two years since 2006. Its purpose is to highlight the latest research, control methods, and knowledge of wild pig biology.

Feral swine cause concerns almost everywhere they are found. They wreak havoc with natural ecosystems, destroying habitat and contributing to local declines of native flora and fauna. Their foraging and rooting behaviors can severely deplete agricultural crops, along with impacting forest and pasture lands. Feral swine are opportunistic predators and will kill vulnerable young livestock and other small animals. Feral swine also carry diseases detrimental to livestock and humans. Disease spread from feral swine to domestic livestock could have severe economic consequences through reduced production or increased trade restrictions. They also can serve as reservoirs or mixing vessels for viruses that may emerge as new



health threats to either livestock or humans.

Oral and poster presentations at the conference typically address ecological damage, economic effects, management and population control tactics, public perception and legislation,

vey for *Brucella suis*, classical swine fever virus, porcine circovirus type 2, and pseudorabies virus in feral swine (*Sus scrofa*) in eastern North Carolina” and “Using an individual-based model to provide insight on the spread of pseudorabies virus in feral swine in Great Smoky Mountains National Park”.



The NWDP also presented three poster presentations titled “Surveillance for feral swine diseases in the United States”, “Identification of molecular population structure

for wild pigs in the United States” and “Identification of putative origins of introduced pigs in Indiana using nuclear microsatellite markers”.



foraging and rooting behaviors can severely deplete agricultural crops, along with impacting forest and pasture lands. Feral swine are opportunistic predators and will kill vulnerable young livestock and other small animals. Feral swine also carry diseases detrimental to livestock and humans. Disease spread from feral swine to domestic livestock could have severe economic consequences through reduced production or increased trade restrictions. They also can serve as reservoirs or mixing vessels for viruses that may emerge as new

outreach/education, and disease control/surveillance programs. The NWDP provided an oral presentation on “A retrospective serological survey of PRRS and PCV2 exposure in United States feral swine”. NWDP also participated in papers on “A serosur-

Abstracts from these presentations may be found at www.wildpigconference.com. The next International Wild Pig Conference is scheduled to be held in Mobile, AL in 2014.

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The original artwork on this page was created by the National Wildlife Disease Program's Erika Kampe and Sarah Goff

